



# Brownfields 2004 Grant Fact Sheet

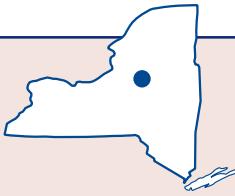
## Rome, NY

### EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, the President signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

### Community Description

The City of Rome was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant. Since the 1770s, Rome's economy has been based largely on manufacturing. In the mid-1900s, manufacturers in Rome produced 10 percent of all finished copper in the United States. The decline in manufacturing and the closure of Griffis Air Force Base dramatically reduced job opportunities in Rome, resulting in a decline in population. At its peak, the city's population was 51,000. Today, Rome has 34,950 residents, and a poverty rate of 15 percent. Residents in areas adjacent to the city's former industrial areas have lower education levels, and their homes have lower property values than the rest of the city. Cleanup of brownfields sites,



### Assessment Grant

New  
2004

\$200,000 for petroleum

EPA has selected the City of Rome for a brownfields assessment grant. Grant funds will be used for remedial investigation, community involvement, and redevelopment initiatives community-wide at properties contaminated with petroleum.

### Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: [www.epa.gov/brownfields](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields).

EPA Region 2 Brownfields Team

212-637-4314

[http://www.epa.gov/region02/superfund/  
brownfields/](http://www.epa.gov/region02/superfund/brownfields/)

Grant Recipient: Rome, NY  
585-232-5137

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

particularly in corridors that have been identified as potential main streets for a new downtown, is expected to improve economic development, increase job opportunities, reduce environmental health risks, and generate tax revenues.